



Wodonga/Albury & Benalla Camera Clubs

The Paatsch Shield Challenge



Meeting Date: August 2018		Print Secretary Brian Paatsch 02 6025 2117 brianjan@dragnet.com.au			
Judge: Marg Huxtable					
Subject: Boorhaman Roadtrip					
Benalla Camera Club		Wodonga/Albury Camera Club			
No.	Subject No.	Image Title	pts	Points	Place
1	4	Country Church - Daren Fawkes BCC	pts	12	Place
A lovely image of a small country church. Monochrome suits the subject, the sky has interest and the symmetry of the image works well. The light coming from one side throws one side into shadow but detail is not lost and it gives the building more interest in its structure.					
2	2	The Shearing Shed - Kaye Kennedy WACC	pts	10	Place
There are lots of elements in this image that give a feeling of the past when Australia rode on the sheep's back such as the rustic construction of the shed from the wooden floor boards to the tin roof. However, the bale of wool and electrical power to the shears tells us the wool industry is alive and well in the 21 st Century. Maybe the composition could be improved as I find the bale of wool too dominant.					
3	2	Peering Through Old Window - Judy Barry BCC	pts	9	Place
This image reminds me of my childhood when our cat used to sit in the front window waiting for us to come home. The photographer has certainly captured the state of the old window - the cracked pane, the peeling paint and condition of the frame. However, it took me a while to see the dark cat as my eyes were drawn to the brighter part of the image at the bottom. Was the image taken in an antique shop window and, if so, how much was that pussy in the window?					
4	10	The Billabong - Maree Mills WACC	pts	10	Place
I love the reflections of the trees and the sunlight on the billabong but feel that the two branches of the fallen tree cut across the image. I guess the photographer was trying to show the life cycle of nature around the billabong but I feel the composition could be improved.					
5	3	Wangaratta - Ken Jenkins BCC	pts	9	Place
What interests me in this image is the architecture of the old buildings along the edges of the image. These old buildings give the streetscape character. I feel the photographer has tried for a symmetrical image by taking the image from the middle of the road. But has this resulted in an interesting image? Maybe next time move beyond the cars so that the buildings are more dominant.					
6	4	St Patricks Window - Jan Paatsch WACC	pts	9	Place
The warm colours in this image are strong and draw the eye to them and the light through the window enhances the colours. By taking the image on an angle, the photographer has tried to make this image have more impact as a diagonal line from a corner usually makes an image more dramatic. However, I feel for this type of image, the story, colour and light through the stained glass window should be enough to provide the visual impact.					
7	2	Big Shed - Susan Thompson BCC	pts	10	Place
The mud brick and timber construction of the big shed gives the image a really rustic appeal. However, I find the foliage of the trees covers too much of the shed. I would like to see more of the shed's construction and the purpose of the building. Maybe next time, climb over the fence and try a few different compositions but watch your pants on that barbed wire.					



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No.	Subject No.	Image Title		Points		Place
8	2	Life In The Bush - Tim O'Keeffe WACC	pts	11	Place	
<p>This shed has seen better days; the broken boards, the rust and the crooked fence line give a feeling of age. It may still be used as there are new pieces of corrugated iron patching it. The lovely light enhances the colour of the rust and texture in the timber. Maybe the cropping is too tight, especially on the right but there may have been a reason for cropping so tightly.</p>						
9	5	The Road Home - Linda Bourke BCC	pts	13	Place	Merit
<p>A lovely country scene, the shadows are lengthening and it's time to head home. The soft misty light in the background draws my eye down the road to the farm house and the image is well framed by the trees. Maybe try cropping the foreground just beyond the shadow so that the road starts in the corner to give the image a stronger leading line.</p>						
10	6	Feeding In The Dry - Yvonne Schnelle WACC	pts	11	Place	
<p>This image tells a story of the harshness of life on the land during drought conditions. Initially I thought that there may be too much uninteresting foreground but by including so much of the grassless paddock, it makes the story stronger as it emphasises the fact that there is little natural feed for the cattle and explains why the cattle are around the food trough.</p>						
11	1	Bedford - Mike O'Connor BCC	pts	9	Place	
<p>The colour of the rust in this image is really strong and I like the fact that the photographer has got down low to take the image. But I feel the composition lets it down. My eye is drawn to the sky in the top left corner. Moving from straight on to a slightly different angle would have eliminated the sky and given the image some leading lines to work with, such as using the grill to lead to the headlight.</p>						
12	9	Farmer Joe - Debbie Shepherd WACC	pts	15	Place	Best
<p>Even though Farmer Joe is not dominant in this image, the whole image evokes a feeling of rural life. The use of panning gives a sense of motion as does the dust behind the ute full of sheep. The patch of light highlighting the dust and ute keeps my eye on the subject of the image whilst the foreground and background set the rural scene. There is some digital colour noise under the ute which had probably happened in post-processing.</p>						
13	10	Memories of Saturdays - Jen Fawkes BCC	pts	13	Place	Merit
<p>This image took me back to my childhood too, fishing with my Dad on the NSW coast. It's such a peaceful scene and even though I can only see the children's backs and there's not much action, the children seem to be totally relaxed and enjoying their fishing. And there is not a digital screen in sight. Presenting the image as a monochrome works well too. Colour can be distracting and affect the mood of the image. Most of the elements in the image set the scene, however the bright lid of the fishing box in the left front corner is distracting but any attempt to move it would probably have upset the tranquillity of the scene. Maybe tone it down.</p>						
14	11	A Good Drop - Dianne Groch WACC	pts	11	Place	
<p>I didn't have to guess where this image was taken. The stack of Muscat barrels sets the scene and the warm toning of the wood is quite pleasing to the eye. Even though the barrels are round, the stack creates many triangular patterns. The background gives a hint of a larger environment. Maybe I would have liked seeing more of the environment and I'm not sure the cropping of some of the barrels works for me.</p>						



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No.	Subject No.	Image Title		Points		Place
15	6	Landscape - Noel Baumgarten BCC	pts	10	Place	
Using monochrome for this image reminds me of photos in history books of the early days of colonisation and the sheep industry that brought Australia great wealth. The mob of sheep under the gums tells me that the day is hot and the sheep are seeking shade. If the contrast was boosted it may improve the image but it could detract from the nostalgic feeling of the scene.						
16	2	The Dust Of Time - Marion Jacob WACC	pts	11	Place	
The different shapes, sizes and materials used to construct the jugs and barrels tell a story of how the wine industry has evolved over the years. The graininess of this image gives a feeling of age even though this may be a result of taking the image in a dimly lit building. Maybe a vignette round the barrels would have enhanced the image as I find the grate in the lower left corner distracting and a vignette would have toned this down.						
17	2	Shearing Shed - Sylvia Baumgarten BCC	pts	14	Place	Merit
The shearing shed evokes a feeling of nostalgia for the good old days when Australia rode on the sheep's back and the wool trade, where the wealth of the nation was born. The framing of the shed by the trees, the yards off to the side and the tank in the foreground add to the story. The soft vignette around the image gives it an historical feeling but if you want to enhance this effect try turning the image into a sepia toned monochrome. I may have cropped some off the bottom too.						
18	4	Booraham Church - Sean King WACC	pts	9	Place	
I really like the way the sun's rays shine through the stain glassed window but I feel the image is let down by the darkness at the side and front of the image. Maybe cropping the image to remove the dark areas would have created a more appealing image.						
19	2	Three-Wheeler - Joe Bourke BCC	pts	11	Place	
The photographer has used a high-key or overexposed style to present this image. This allows the machinery to stand out well against the background. A light vignette has also been used but it has affected the machinery as well. The rim of the wheel closest to the left has almost disappeared. Be careful when using this style whether in post-processing or capture to ensure that detail is maintained in the subject.						
20	3	Books - Brian Paatsch WACC	pts	9	Place	
The tonal range of this monochrome has been well handled and the level of contrast is good with strong blacks and whites that haven't been blown out. Colour can be distracting at times and turning an image into monochrome makes the viewer concentrate on the subject matter. With streetscapes, careful consideration should be given to composition and interest. Maybe the photographer could have waited until there was someone browsing through the books, as this would have added an additional point of interest to the streetscape.						
21	2	Truck - John Barry	pts	12	Place	
The state of this truck certainly gives a feeling of age or a relic of the past. The lack of headlights and side mirrors, the rusty duco, the growth on the windscreen and the loss of a wheel all indicate that this truck has seen better days. By not taking the photo from straight on but from an angle, the photographer has really shown the condition of this truck. However, if taken later in the day, the rusty colour would have been more saturated and really glowed in the afternoon light.						



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No.	Subject No.	Image Title		Points	Place	Place
22	12	Shaun The Sheep - Monika King WACC	pts	14	Place	Merit
<p>Was this a selfie? It takes a lot of guts to bear all in front of a mob of sheep (<i>and camera</i>). But maybe Shaun is a nudist and it comes naturally. Pun intended. Or maybe not, judging by the lack of tan on his nether region. The sheep look stunned as Shaun walks towards them. What are they thinking? Shaun is well positioned within the image, with the sun casting a small shadow of his pose directly in front of him and the sky having a few clouds to break up the blue. With post-processing, take care with the selection of the sky and background trees as there is a bit of ghosting in some parts and darker tops of trees in others.</p>						
23	11	Winery - Mike Bourke BCC	pts	13	Place	Merit
<p>The composition of this image is pleasing, the vines in the foreground with the grand building in the background gives me a sense of place and purpose. There is a lovely warm light striking the top of the tower so the image was probably taken late in the day. Overall, the image is a bit hazy. This may be the effect wanted but I feel adjusting the levels would give the image more contrast and vibrancy and the elements of the winery would stand out more.</p>						
24	3	At The End Of The Day - David Willis WACC	pts	14	Place	Merit
<p>The light in this image is lovely. There is a warm glow that makes the historical charm of this street scene look appealing. The placement of the cars leads your eye through the image with the older, more interesting car well lit on the left. Does the absence of people and lack of traffic on a lovely Sunday afternoon in Rutherglen tell a story about life in a rural town or is this image the result of a patient and safety-conscious photographer? Be careful with post-processing, as there is some ghosting around the buildings.</p>						

Total Score:	BCC = 135	WACC = 134
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Individual Placing's

Best Image	Debbie Shepherd – Farmer Joe ~ WACC	pts	15
Merit	David Willis – At the End of the Day ~ WACC	pts	14
Merit	Monika King – Shaun the Sheep ~ WACC	pts	14
Merit	Sylvia Baumgarten – Shearing Shed ~ BCC	pts	14
Merit	Jen Fawkes – Memories of Saturdays ~ BCC	pts	13
Merit	Linda Bourke – The Road Home ~ BCC	pts	13
Merit	Mike Bourke – Winery ~ BCC	pts	13



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PAATSCH SHIELD SUNDAY, APRIL 29th. 2018

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SUBJECTS

NOTE: ALL SUBJECTS DO NOT HAVE TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED. You may photograph as many of the subjects as you wish:

- Members must specify, on each photograph entered, the subject it represents.
- Subject/s must be photographed on Sunday, April 29th.
- Subject/s must be photographed within the towns or along the route specified.

Subject 1: MACHINERY. "A photograph of an apparatus or part there-of, designed to apply mechanical power or to carry out some mechanical function."

Subject 2: RELIC(S) FROM THE PAST. "A photo showing old buildings, articles, implements, etc. which from general knowledge or by visual impact, are known or seen to be old. Photos in which the main subject is living is not acceptable."

Subject 3: STREETSCAPE "A photo taken within the confines of a street or road in a built-up area."

Subject 4: CHURCH "This may be the whole church or part thereof. Internal scenes are permitted however please respect any church attendees as this is a Sunday."

Subject 5: LANDSCAPE INCLUDING BUILDINGS. "A photo featuring the natural scenery of the terrain including one or more buildings which should not dominate the image."

Subject 6: LANDSCAPE INCLUDING ANIMALS. "A photo featuring the natural scenery of the terrain including one or more animals which should not dominate the image."

Subject 7: COUNTRY PUB: This maybe the whole pub or part thereof. Internal scenes are permitted. People maybe included but must not dominate the image."

Subject 8: SWAMPSCAPE: The route passes through this area shortly after leaving our lunch location. This scene may or may not include water."

Subject 9: RURAL STUDY. "A photo showing a person or people in a rural setting whereby the relation between the two can be seen. This can be achieved by dress and/ or action."

Subject 10: WATER: " A photo showing water as the main theme."

Subject 11: WINERY: " A photo that shows any aspect of or related to a winery."

Subject 12: NUDE: "A study of a male or female figure in whole or in part. Background must indicate the image was taken at a location on the nominated route."